

## Cleobury Mortimer Branch of the Royal British Legion

### BR3180

The Cleobury Mortimer Branch is one of the oldest branches in Shropshire. The branch was founded in July 1921. Its aim is to help and support members of the Armed Forces and their families. This can be if someone falls ill, has to leave the Forces due to a disability or even help in setting up a business on retiring to name a few.

In a recent national survey the Royal British Legion came second on a list of Charities named by the public. The top slot went to Cancer UK. People usually think of the Royal British Legion in the three weeks leading up to Remembrance Sunday, when Poppies are sold. The Legion needs money all year round. A local ex serviceman has benefited recently with a stair lift. The Legion has also been the main contributor to the Battle Back Centre at Lilleshall as part of its commitment to support wounded, injured and sick personnel.

Here in Cleobury the branch has over 70 members which is quite a reasonable number for a rural location but the members average age is rising. It is a sad fact that we have lost several members recently. Many people don't realize that you don't have to have been a member of the Armed Services to join. It would be good to have some new members with new ideas for raising money to support this worthwhile cause. So far this year Cleobury has contributed over £6830.

The branch meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month at the Bell Inn. The branch organizes trips to various museums, the National Arboretum and the Birmingham Tattoo. Locally it holds its Annual Harvest Auction, Bowls Competition and Remembrance Concert. The Annual Lunch with guest speaker, this year Lt. Col Kevin Smith from Cleobury was a great success. The funds raised at these functions all adds to our total for this great cause. To find out more ask a member, become a member or look on the Royal British Legion website which has a link to our own pages which is under construction.